UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/629,932	07/29/2003	Charles Edward Schinner	200309988-1	9051

22879 7590 03/27/2007 HEWLETT PACKARD COMPANY P O BOX 272400, 3404 E. HARMONY ROAD INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY ADMINISTRATION FORT COLLINS, CO 80527-2400	**EXAMINER** WHIPPLE, BRIAN P

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2152	

SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD OF RESPONSE	MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
3 MONTHS	03/27/2007	PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire 6 MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.

	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	10/629,932	SCHINNER, CHARLES EDWARD
Office Action Summary	Examiner	Art Unit	
	Brian P. Whipple	2152	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.
- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>29 July 2003</u>.

2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.

3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) ☒ Claim(s) *1-23* is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) ☒ Claim(s) *1-23* is/are rejected.

7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a) ☐ All   b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:

      1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.

4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
    Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.

5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application

6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

1.   Claims 1-23 are pending in this application and presented for examination.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –
>
> (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3.   Claims 1-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Hoblit,

U.S. Publication No. 2004/0044735 A1.

4.   As to claim 1, Hoblit discloses a method for organizing email messages received

by a user, comprising:

        detecting receipt of email messages ([0033], ln. 6-10);

        determining if the received email messages identify a recipient to which an

original email message was transmitted by the user ([0033]); and

        organizing responsive content from at least two independent received email

messages in a consolidated file such that responsive content that pertains to a given

email exchange is contained within a single file ([0034], ln. 11-17).

5.   As to claim 2, Hoblit discloses determining if the received email messages

identify a recipient comprises determining if senders of the received email messages

were recipients to which the original email message was transmitted ([0033], ln. 1-10).

6.   As to claim 3, Hoblit discloses organizing responsive content comprises

organizing the responsive content from at least two independent received email

messages that comprise direct responses to the original email message ([0034]).

7.   As to claim 4, Hoblit discloses organizing responsive content comprises

organizing the responsive content relative to content of the original email message

([0033], ln. 10-21).

8.   As to claim 5, Hoblit discloses organizing responsive content comprises

comparing content contained within the received email messages with content

contained within the original email message transmitted by the user to identify common

content ([0033], ln. 6-16).

9.   As to claim 6, Hoblit discloses organizing responsive content further comprises

omitting the common content so as not to provide multiple copies of originally-

transmitted content ([0033], ln. 6-21).

10.   As to claim 7, Hoblit discloses organizing responsive content comprises

organizing the responsive content in accordance with a date and time that the

responsive content was received ([0031], ln. 8-12).

11.   As to claim 8, Hoblit discloses organizing responsive content comprises

organizing the responsive content in accordance with at least one of a sender name, a

size of the responsive content, a priority of the sender, and an identified importance with

which the responsive content was sent ([0033], ln. 6-10 and 17-21; email is stored in an

associated file if it is a reply message from "one of the multiple recipients" of an original

message, which is organizing responsive content in accordance with a sender name,

wherein a sender name must be identified to determine if a message sender is "one of

the multiple recipients").

12.   As to claim 9, Hoblit discloses organizing responsive content in a consolidated

file comprises organizing the responsive content in a consolidated email message

([0031], ln. 12-18).

13.   As to claim 10, Hoblit discloses organizing the responsive content in a

consolidated email message comprises organizing the responsive content in a

consolidated email message presented in an email application inbox in lieu of the

independent incoming email messages ([0004], ln. 8-11; [0006]; [0031], ln. 8-18;

[0044]).

14.   As to claim 11, Hoblit discloses organizing new content that is responsive to previously-organized responsive content in the consolidated file by associating the new content with the previously-organized responsive content ([0034]).

15.   As to claims 12 and 17, the claims are rejected for the same reasons as claim 1 above.

16.   As to claims 13 and 19, the claims are rejected for the same reasons as claims 5 and 6 above.

17.   As to claim 14, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claims 7 and 8 above.

18.   As to claims 15 and 22, the claims are rejected for the same reasons as claim 10 above.

19.   As to claims 16 and 23, the claims are rejected for the same reasons as claim 11 above.

20.   As to claim 18, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 2 above.

21.   As to claim 20, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 7 above.

22.   As to claim 21, the claim is rejected for the same reasons as claim 8 above.

Conclusion

23.   The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to

applicant's disclosure.

Knowles et al., U.S. Patent No. 5,905,863 discloses finding an e-mail message to

which another e-mail message is a response.

Kennedy, U.S. Patent No. 6,330,589 B1 discloses a system and method for

using a client database to manage conversation threads generated from email or news

messages.

Newman et al., U.S. Publication No. 2002/0073157 A1 discloses a method and

apparatus for presenting e-mail threads as semi-connected text by removing redundant

material.

Rohall et al., U.S. Publication No. 2003/0101065 A1 discloses a method and

apparatus for maintaining conversation threads in electronic mail.

Rohall et al., U.S. Publication No. 2003/0163537 A1 discloses a method and

apparatus for handling conversation threads and message groupings as a single entity.

Ahmed et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,704,772 B1 discloses thread based email.

Daniell, U.S. Publication No. 2004/0054737 A1 discloses tracking email and

instant messaging thread history.

Keohane et al., U.S. Publication No. 2004/0199590 A1 discloses an apparatus, system and method of performing mail message thread searches.

Forstall et al., U.S. Publication No. 2004/0260756 A1 discloses threaded presentation of electronic mail.

Ullmann et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,970,907 B1 discloses a method and system for e-mail chain group discussions.

24.   Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Brian P. Whipple whose telephone number is (571) 270-1244. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri (8:30 AM to 5:00 PM EST).
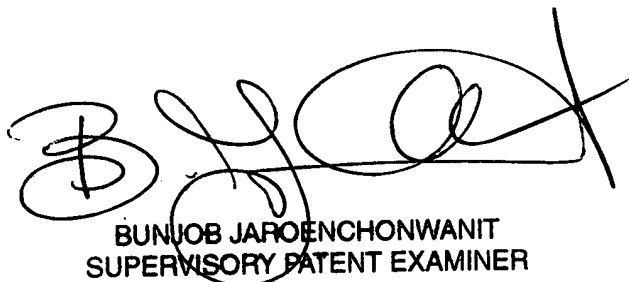
If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Bunjob Jaroenchonwanit can be reached on (571) 272-3913. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the

Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for

published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR.

Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only.

For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should

you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic

Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a

USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information

system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

BPW

Brian P. Whipple
3/21/07

BUNJOB JAROENCHONWANIT
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER